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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of : **Mail Stop: ISSUE FEE**
Takuya KOBAYASHI et al. : **Confirmation No. 3218**
Serial No. 09/808,045 : [Group Art Unit 2153]
Filed March 15, 2001 : Examiner Yasin M. Barqadle]
CONTENT RETRIEVAL DEVICE : Attorney Docket No. 2001_0309A

SECOND RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

Sir:

A Notice of Allowance dated October 13, 2006 was received in the above-identified application. The Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly allowing the application.

However, as originally noted in the January 5, 2005 Amendment and then in the Response to Notice of Allowance filed November 3, 2006, the Examiner failed to consider the reference listed on the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449. As noted in item 4(c) of the March 15, 2001 Information Disclosure Statement, a concise statement of the relevance of this foreign reference was provided in page 4 of the original specification.

In particular, a concise statement of the relevance of this reference is provided in paragraphs [0006]-[0008] of the original and substitute specifications. Therefore, having provided a concise statement of the relevance of this reference, the reference must be considered by the Examiner. For the Examiner's convenience, a courtesy copy of the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449 is submitted herewith.

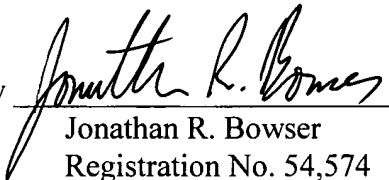
The Applicants filed the Response to Notice of Allowance on November 3, 2006 to request the Examiner to consider the reference listed on the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449,

and to return an Examiner-initialed copy of the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449 to indicate that the reference was considered. However, despite the Applicants' repeated requests, the Examiner has not yet returned an Examiner-initialed copy of the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449 to the Applicants to indicate that the reference listed thereon has been considered.

Accordingly, the Applicants again respectfully request the Examiner to consider the reference listed on the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449 and to return to the Applicants an Examiner-initialed copy of the March 15, 2001 Form PTO-1449 to indicate consideration of the reference listed thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Takuya KOBAYASHI et al.

By 
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December 13, 2006